

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Applicants submit the present paper in response to the Final Office Action mailed May 7, 2007. Applicants sincerely appreciate the indication that Claims 2 and 48 are directed to allowable subject matter if amended to overcome the indefiniteness rejections thereof. Applicants have amended the present application to address the indefiniteness rejections and to otherwise place the present application in condition for allowance. As the present amendment only (1) cancels claims, (2) amends claims to depend from claims that have been found to include allowable subject matter and (3) addresses matters of form identified in the Final Office Action, entry of the present Amendment After Final is appropriate. MPEP 714.02. Applicants are amending the present claims to advance prosecution of the present case, and do so without waiving their rights to pursue the originally filed claims in a continuation application.

II. The Claim Amendments

Applicants have rewritten Claim 2 into independent form, and have amended Claim 2 to address the indefiniteness rejection under 35. U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2. As amended, Claim 2 expressly provides antecedent basis for the "sidewall" recitation, and the word "covering" has been replaced with the word "on" to clarify that the word line may be either directly or indirectly on the sidewalls. Applicants have also cancelled Claim 1, and have amended Claims 12 and 45-46 to depend from Claim 2 in light of the cancellation of Claim 1. Based on the above amendments, Claims 2-11 and 45-46 are now all directed to subject matter that is indicated as allowable in the Final Office Action.

Applicants have also amended Claim 38 to include each of the recitations of Claim 48 and the recitations of intervening Claim 47. Applicants rearranged the ordering of the recitations in making these amendments in order to make amended Claim 38 more easily readable. Applicants also amended Claim 38 to expressly provide antecedent basis for the "sidewall" recitation, and again replaced the word "covering" with the word "on" to clarify that the word line

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may be either directly or indirectly on the sidewalls. Applicants cancelled Claims 47 and 48 in light of the amendments to Claim 38, and also cancelled Claim 39 which was made redundant based on the amendments to Claim 38. Applicants further amended Claims 40, 49 and 53-54 to depend from Claim 38 in light of the cancellation of Claims 39 and 47-48. Based on these amendments, Claims 38, 40 and 49-54 are now all directed to subject matter that is indicated as allowable in the Final Office Action.

III. Conclusion

Applicants again wish to thank the Examiner for the thorough examination of the application. Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, please feel free to call Applicants' representative at (919) 854-1422.

Respectfully submitted,



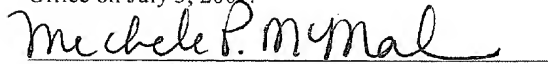
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CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 5, 2007.



Michele P. McMahan
Date of Signature: July 5, 2007